

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-197

Magi No. 2401975504

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)*

historic Littleworth*and/or common Frances Blank House

2. Location

street & number 1 Church St. not for publicationcity, town Berlin vicinity of congressional district 1ststate Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. Frances Blankstreet & number 1 Church St. telephone no.: 641-4133city, town Berlin state and zip code Maryland 21811

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Courthouse liberstreet & number Market St. foliocity, town Snow Hill state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			<u>unknown</u>

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

"Littleworth" is a 2½ story wood frame dwelling with gable roofs, built in a "T" plan. The front section, the top of the "T", is two bays deep by three across, the entrance with transom lights being in the central bay. Each gable end of this section contains an interior brick chimney. The rear section, or stem of the "T", is 2x2 bays. The entire structure including a hip-roofed verandah on the front facade and shed-roofed one story additions on the rear section sits atop a foundation of ashlar-faced block and is sheathed in vinyl siding over wood shingles which cover clapboard.

The dwelling displays decorative details combining Greek Revival and Italianate design. A wide frieze board extends around the house, including gable ends, unifying the boxed cornice and 2nd floor windows which are 2/2. The position of the windows is accented by the placement of a pair of fancy curved brackets on the frieze board at each side of the window. These brackets are also located in the gable ends. Further articulation in the form of a series of very small curved brackets occurs at the top of all windows and at the top of wide corner boards, creating a pilaster effect at the corners of the structure. From some distance, the effect of these small brackets is that of dentil molding.

In addition to the dwelling, a small gable-roofed windowless outbuilding is located to the rear of the back section. It is sheathed by wood shingles and has a board and batten door with large strap hinges. Two long one story gable-roofed structures are located toward the rear of the property. They are built of ashlar-faced block with cement floor.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The dwelling on the "Littleworth" property is puzzling in the apparent disparity between the early 20th century foundation and its mid 19th century style. This was explained however by the owner, whose family has occupied the house for at least three generations. According to her, the original house, which is only part of the present structure, was located a few feet south, near the edge of the property boundary with St. Paul's Church. The house was moved and enlarged in the very early 20th century.

The long block structures at the rear of the property were built by the owner's father about the time of WWI for the purpose of hatching chickens to provide improved species to local farmers. This operation which continued for several years, may be an important early step in the development of the peninsula's poultry industry, and deserves further study.

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